



Montana  
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## Overview

### Montana Comprehensive Assessment System (MontCAS)

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The Montana Comprehensive Assessment System (MontCAS) includes a Criterion-Referenced Test, a Criterion-Referenced Test-Alternate, and an English Language Proficiency Test.

- The Criterion-Referenced Test (CRT) and Criterion-Referenced Test-Alternate (CRT-Alt) are aligned to Montana content standards. The CRT-Alternate is based on Alternate Achievement Standards (AAS).
- The CRT and the CRT-Alt in Reading and Math in grades 3-8 and 10 received full approval from the United States Department of Education in November of 2007. The CRT-Alternate for Science in grades 4, 8, and 10 has been approved.
- Approval from the United States Department of Education for the CRT in Science in grades 4, 8, and 10 is pending.
- Data on test results and participation are available on the Montana Report Card site. Additional test result data are on the OPI IRIS test report site.

- [http://www.opi.mt.gov/Reports&Data/index.html?gpm=1\\_9](http://www.opi.mt.gov/Reports&Data/index.html?gpm=1_9)

- [http://www.opi.mt.gov/curriculum/MontCAS/index.html?gpm=1\\_10&pnl=3\\_3](http://www.opi.mt.gov/curriculum/MontCAS/index.html?gpm=1_10&pnl=3_3)

*The Montana Office of Public Instruction provides vision, advocacy, support, and leadership for schools and communities to ensure that all students meet today's challenges and tomorrow's opportunities.*

The following table includes information on statewide testing since the spring of the 2001 through the present.

| Dates Contra  | Contractor                   | Tests  | Grades                                 | Content Areas  |
|---|------------------------------|--|--|--|
| <b>MontCAS Phase 1</b><br><a href="http://www.opi.mt.gov/PUB/index.php?dir=PDF/Assessment/Archive/Phase1/NRT/">http://www.opi.mt.gov/PUB/index.php?dir=PDF/Assessment/Archive/Phase1/NRT/</a> |                              |  |  |  |
| Spring 2001 – Spring 2007   | Riverside Publishing Company | Iowa Tests of Basic Skills (ITBS) and Iowa Tests of Educational Development (ITED): off-the-shelf norm-referenced test and Montana developed Alternate Assessment Scales | ITBS: Grades 4 and 8<br>ITED: Grade 11 | Reading<br>Communication Arts<br>Math<br>Social Studies<br>Science |
| <b>MontCAS Phase 2</b><br><a href="http://www.opi.mt.gov/Curriculum/MontCAS/index.html?gpm=1_2">http://www.opi.mt.gov/Curriculum/MontCAS/index.html?gpm=1_2</a>                               |                              |  |  |  |
| Spring 2004 and Spring 2005   | Measured Progress            | Criterion-Referenced Test (CRT) and Criterion-Referenced Test-Alternate (CRT-Alt)  | Grades 4, 8, and 10                    | Reading and Math   |
| Spring 2006 – Present   | Measured Progress            | Criterion-Referenced Test (CRT) and Criterion-Referenced Test-Alternate (CRT-Alt)  | Grades 3-8 and 10                      | Reading and Math   |
| Spring 2007 –Present  | Measured Progress            | Criterion-Referenced Test (CRT) and Criterion-Referenced Test-Alternate (CRT-Alt)  | Grades 4, 8, and 10                    | Science  |
| <b>English Language Proficiency Test (ELP)</b><br><a href="http://www.opi.mt.gov/Curriculum/MontCAS/index.html?gpm=1_11">http://www.opi.mt.gov/Curriculum/MontCAS/index.html?gpm=1_11</a>     |                              |  |  |  |
| Fall 2006- Present  | Questar                      | English Language Proficiency Test  | Grades K-12                            | Listening<br>Speaking<br>Reading<br>Writing<br>Comprehension       |